Bible & Daily Living

On Idolatry

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
IDOLATRY IN EPHESUS
Lesson for May 15, 1983
Bible Study Passage: Act
Introduction

Idolatry is not just a problem that existed in the days of Paul. Idolatry is still a common problem in our society which threatens the growth and understanding of the Gospel.

We worship many things in our world. We idolize cars, homes, boats, jewelry, IRA accounts, and even churches. The commercial world reacts in disgust when anything comes along that may impede the flow of profits. It used to be that Sunday was a day of rest for many in the labor force, but competition and greed now find most businesses open on Sunday.

The "pewpackers" and preachers are sometimes guilty of worshipping Jesus rather than following him. Christ does not want us to merely worship him.

Some churches idolize certain creeds to the point of worshipping them. The nation is often idolized and worshipped. We, Christians emphasize God and country but what do we do when we are faced with the ethical and moral dilemma of God or country?

This week's lesson looks at the riot that took place in Ephesus when the silversmiths saw their profitable business threatened by the Gospel.

The Gospel Confronts Idolatry [Acts 19:23-29]

The silversmiths in Ephesus forged replicas of the goddess's primitive sanctuary. This goddess can be traced back as far as 1100 B.C. and 800 B.C. when she was adopted by the Greeks.

In New Testament times Artemis was a goddess of fertility in man, beast, and vegetation. Artemis was worshipped in many Asian cities. It is, threfore, no exaggeration in the Biblical description that she was the one "whom all Asia and the world worship." (Acts 19:27) Artemis is usually seen in sculptured works as a female figure with multiple breasts, surrounded by lions and bulls.

Since Artemis was so widely worshipped, it was easy to turn such adoration into a money-making business. When Paul confronted the silversmiths they reacted with a demonstration against the influence of Paul and his co-laborers. They denounced the Gospel teachings of Paul because they threatened the financial business district of Ephesus.

You will recall how Jesus was told to get out of town when he cast out the demons within the demoniac onto a herd of swine. You will recall how the townspeople objected to the waste of good, prime pork.

Many people become defensive when their bankbook is threatened. We will readily support those things which may bring us gain, but we fight those things which may threaten the Dow Jones average. The Bible and the Wall Street Journal are not usually read together!

A Spokesman For the Silversmiths [Acts 15:35-41]

During the uprising in Ephesus over Paul's teachings of the Gospel, the townclerk took responsibility to try and bring order to the chaos. Naturally, he came to the defense of their goddess. He argued that her firm foothold in their city could not possibly be disturbed by the teaching of a few fanatics. Surely her reputation would not be threatened by the strange teachings of a handful of preachers.

We know, however, that the Gospel is powerful. Little did these silversmiths realize that the worship of Artemis would wane as time went by. This biblical story should remind us that our influence can be a powerful tool to bring about change. It should also remind us that we face daily competiton for our loyalties. Idolatry comes disguised in many forms which may put us in situations where we must choose our loyalties.

The Gospel is like a sword in that it can act as a divider. When confronted with Gospel claims some people are faced with difficult decisions between right and wrong.

When we idolize something or someone we really become a servant or pawn. Idolatry has a way of making us lose sight of reality. Idolatry can erode our moral values, and cause us to become insensitive to the wounded pilgrims we meet every day.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois. (WLYP)

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Celebration scheduled

The Canaan Baptist Church Ladies' Club anniversary celebration will be held at Jordan Baptist Church May 15 at 3 p.m. The Rev. Warren Napier and his choir will be special guests. Friends and co-workers are invited to attend the event at Jordan Baptist Church.

The Statham Singers of Baltimore will be in concert at Jordan Baptist Church on Friday, May 27 at 8 p.m. Mrs. Mary Hudson is sponsor of this event. Please come out and worship with us.

REVIVAL
Reedy Spring Baptist Church
ROUTE 648 — Spout Spring, VA 24593

SPEAKER
Dr. Carlisle Driggers
Home Mission Board,
SBC — Atlanta

WED.: MAY 18 — SAT., MAY 21
7:30 p.m.
SUN., MAY 22 — Sunday School 10 a.m.
Worship — 11 a.m.
JIM KERR, MINISTER

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CHURCHES

At local church

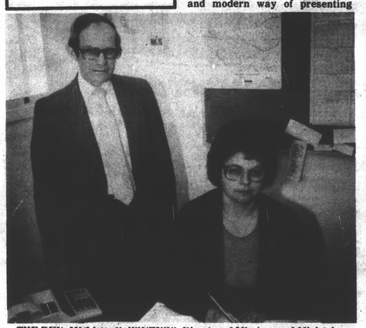
'Universe' continues

Dorothy Aitken

The Theatre of the Universe presentations at the Appomattox Seventh-day Adventist Church by Pastor John Aitken over the weekend of May 6 to 9 were a great inspiration to all. This was a unique and modern way of presenting graphically the great Truths of the Holy Bible. The Sing-along with Judy and the story of Rajah by famed author Dorothy Aitken was most exciting for a large number of children. Her newest book The Hunted of Cambodia will be given as a free door prize each evening.

This series of special World Travel Films and Christian Messages will continue May 13, 14, and 15 with Pastor James J. Aitken at 7:00 p.m. The big attraction Friday night May 13 will be Mystic India a technicolor film documentary produced by Pastor James J. Aitken with his own live commentary. This is a most unique one-of-kind picture inside India featuring Indira Ghandi. The Christian message for the evening will be The Lord's Day Worship Of Jesus Christ. Saturday night the film will be from Australia, Wonders Of Down Under with the Christian message The New Birth, What is It? Sunday night the Color Movie will be South Pacific Paradise with the Christian message Heaven Is It Real And Will Christ Come Again. Don't forget to come and sing-along with Judi and guitarists Gary and Charlie Moore.

Admission is free to these thrilling presentations and the public is cordially invited.



THE REV. MELVIN E. WINTERS, Director of Missions and Ministries, (standing) is shown with Mrs. Louise Roach, (seated) Appomattox Baptist Associaiton secretary, as they get ready for Open House on Sunday, May 15 at the association office on 203 N. Church Street. The Open House which will begin Associational Emphasis Week, May 15-22 with a theme of "A Family of Churches," will be held from 2:30 until 5 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend. The purpose of the association is the coordination of churches on local level promoting missions and ministries for the betterment of all churches. There are 28 Southern Baptist churches in the Appomattox Association which includes four counties. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Obituaries

Alfred Cleo Higginbotham

Alfred Cleo Higginbotham, 83, of Appomattox, died Tuesday, May 3, 1983, in Lynchburg General Hospital. He was the husband of the late Mary Reynolds Higginbotham.

Born in Buffalo, W. Va., he was a son of the late Oscar O. Higginbotham and Minnie Jackson Higgginbotham. He was a retired farmer and a member of the Baptist church.

He is survived by four sons, Harry Higginbotham, Spout Spring, Robert Higginbotham and Cecil Higginbotham, both of Rustburg, and Travis Higginbotham, Chester; three daughters, Belle H. Campbell, Apoka, Fla.,Rosa H. Cyrus, Appomattox, and Margaret H. Shudgins, West Hatteson, Fla.; three brothers, Charles Higginbotham and Harold Higginbotham, Dunbar, W.Va., Arnold Higginbotham, Miami, Fla., and Melford Higginbotham, Leesburg, Fla.; four sisters, Georgia H. Whittington, Lithopolis, Ohio, Clara H. Reedy, Albany, Ohio, Naomi H. Burns, Bidwell, Ohio, and Mildred H. Jeffrey, Dexter, Ohio; 16 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were conducted at 11 a.m. Friday in Fort Hill Memorial Park by the Rev. Jim Kerr.

Whitten Park Avenue Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Addison Conrad Moore

GLADSTONE - Addison Conrad Moore, 34, of Evergreen Mobile Home Park, Lynchburg, died early Monday morning, May 9, at his residence. He was the husband of Patricia Dale Worley Moore.

Born in Appomattox County, he was a son of the late Conrad Moore and Doris Burks Moore. He was a member of Mt. Comfort Untied Methodist Church and an employee of Simplimatic Engineering Co.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Timothy Wayne Moore, and a daughter, Crystal Gail Moore.

Funeral services will be conducted today (Thursday) at 4 p.m. from Robinson Funeral Home by the Rev. Dott Bryan. Burial will be in Maple Grove Baptist Church cemetery.

Robinson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Ruby Estelle Perdiue Hilton

Ruby Estelle Perdiue Hilton, 79, Madison Heights, died Wednesday, May 4, 1983, in the Medical Care Center, after a long illness. She was the wife of Waitmon Marvin Hilton.

Born in Concord, she was the daughter of the late Charles E. Perdiue and Martha Moore Perdiue. She was a retired employee of Old Dominion Box Company and was a member of Eternal Baptist Church.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a brother, Charles Edward Perdiue, Madison Heights, and a number of nieces and nephews. She reared a niece, Florence B. Abbott, of Lynchburg.

Graveside services were conducted at 1 p.m. Friday in Fort Hill Memorial Park by the Rev. Llewellyn Wade.

Whitten Park Avenue Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Services set at Galilee

You are invited to Sunday School classes at Galilee this coming Sunday at 10 a.m. Regular preaching and worship services begin at 11 a.m. Pastor Davis will deliver the morning worship message and the Youth Services Singers will render the musical selections.

On that afternoon at 3 p.m., the Men's Club of Galilee will celebrate its thirty-second anniversary. We have prepared a special program for you and a very special surprise awaits those who attend. Come out and let us "Praise the Lord" together.

Rev. Tim Lawing and the Youth Services Singers were special guests of Rev. Boyd Christian and congregation of the Mt. Obed Baptist Church. Revival services are in progress at Mt. Obed this week. Please attend.

Mrs. Jacqueline Poteat and family of Baltimore, Md., were in Appomattox for the weekend.

Miss Margaret Annette Lampkin of the Chestnut Grove Community will be married to Mr. Randolph Lewis on May 14. The wedding will take place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Lewis of Roanoke County. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Let us continue in prayer one for another. Have a pleasant week.

All members of Carver-Price classes, 1958 thru 1962, are reminded of the deadline for participation in the reunion. Please respond! Thank you.

Promise Land

A very inspiring message was delivered by Rev. A. Davis, Sr., Sunday. An Evil Generation Is Near. It was a very inspiring service with many visitors and homecomers. Those visiting were Mr. and Mrs. Madison Fleshman, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Pollard, Mrs. Ann Thomas and son, and James Robinson. We were also glad to see Mrs. Pauline Hancock and Mrs. Theresa Thornton who have been on the sick list. It was a very lovely Mother's Day.

We extend an invitation to Sunday School on May 15 at 10 a.m. Subject of the lesson was "Riot in Ephesus". Come and learn God's word through discussion and questions.

The Golden Jubilee Singers will render a musical program on Sunday, May 22, 1983 at 3 p.m.

Let us always remember the sick and shut-in in our prayers and deeds.

The Chancel Choir will celebrate their second anniversary on Sunday, June 19, 1983 at 4 p.m.

Program set at Jordan

The Sunday School will be sponsoring a special program at Jordan Baptist Church Sunday night at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

The Ladies Club will meet Saturday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m.

The Senior Choir will practice Friday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m.

On the fourth Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. the Ladies Club will sponsor their annual Ladies Day.

Mt. Comfort sets event

Heritage Sunday, an annual event at the Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church will be held this Sunday, May 15.

Beginning at 10 a.m. a program of gospel music will be presented during the regularly scheduled Sunday School time. Following this, the regular morning worship service will be conducted by the Rev. Thomas Jackson.

Lunch will be served following the worship service and the afternoon will be a time of fellowship.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

The Rev. David Camden is pastor of the church.

LACS plans meeting

The Lynchburg Area Christian Singles organization will meet May 12 at Highland Baptist Church in Lynchburg.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Joe Phillips.

PUBLIC CORDIALLY INVITED
Free Admission
Special World Color Film Documentaries And Christian Messages
Filmed by James J. Aitken
Former
United Nations Representative

James J. Aitken

FRIDAY, MAY 13
MYSTIC INDIA featuring Indira Ghandi
"The Lord's Day Worship of Jesus Christ"
SATURDAY, MAY 14
AUSTRALIA WONDERS OF DOWN UNDER
The New Birth — What is it?
COME SING ALONG WITH JUDI AND GUITARISTS, GARY AND CHARLIE MOORE EACH EVENING
7:00 P.M.
Seventh-Day Adventist Church
(ACROSS FROM MOSES CHEVROLET)

SUNDAY, MAY 15
SOUTH PACIFIC PARADISE Heaven Is It Real?
Will Christ Come Again?

Miss Pugh, Mr. Shupe marry

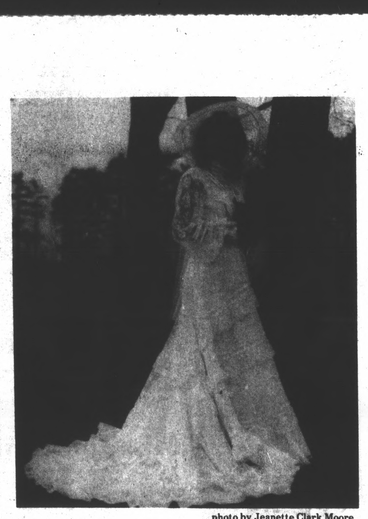


photo by Jeanette Clark Moore

Mrs. Michael Andrew Shupe

The Marriage of Miss Angela Pugh to Mr. Michael Andrew Shupe took place on Saturday afternoon, May 7, 1983 at two o'clock in the New Hope Baptist Church in Vera.

The Reverend Robert Williams, pastor of the church, officiated at the double ring, candlelight ceremony before an altar of palms and flowers.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Raymond A. Hatcher Jr. of Appomattox and Mr. Grover D. Pugh of Lynchburg. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Shupe of Appomattox.

The bride, escorted by her father and given in marriage by her father, wore a Southern Belle type gown fashioned with a high neckline and long lace sleeves. Bands of ribbon inserts accented the front of the fitted bodice, encircled the sleeves and enhanced the ruffles of lace that accented the full skirt. The bodice and sleeves were embroidered with seed pearls. Her fingertip veil was attached to a picture hat trimmed with matching lace and seed pearls. She carried a silk bouquet of daisies, carnations, forget-me-nots, and baby's breath.

Ms. Shawn Harvey Moore was matron of honor. She wore a floor length gown of pink polka dot organza with Southern Belle sleeves trimmed in white lace and accented with a white satin sash. She carried two lavender long stemmed carnations with baby's breath, white satin hearts and accented with white streamers to compliment her gown.

Miss Shirl Darlene Hatcher, step sister of the bride, was maid of honor. She wore a floor length gown of pink polka dot organza with Southern Belle sleeves trimmed in white lace and accented with a white satin sash. She carried two pink long stemmed carnations with baby's breath, white satin hearts and accented with white streamers to compliment her gown.

Bridesmaids were Miss Kimberly Dawn Shupe of Appomattox, sister of the bridegroom; Miss Kimberly Scott Cheanault of Appomattox; and Miss Christina Robertson of Gladstone. Their dresses were identical to that of the honor attendants but in pastel colors and they carried similar pastel color flowers to match their dresses.

Mr. Bobby Shupe of Appomattox, father of the bridegroom, was best man. Ushers were Mr., Dennis Eugene Merricks of Altavista, cousin of the bride; Mr. Edward Merricks of Altavista, cousin of the bride; Mr. Donald Kevin Moore of Appomattox and Mr. Barry Wayne Watkins of Appomattox. The bridegroom and groomsmen wore white tuxedos featuring full length rounded tails, with a white ruffled shirt accented with a white satin bow tie to complete their outfit.

Miss Tara Renee Johnson of Appomattox, cousin of the bridegroom, was flower girl. She wore a floor length gown of white. She carried a white wicker basket from which she dropped rainbow colored carnation petals.

Master Jason Wayne Shupe of Appomattox, brother of the bridegroom, was ring bearer. He wore formal attire similar to the groomsmen. He carried a white satin heart-shaped pillow with streamers of white ribbon and lily of the valley.

Honored guests were Mrs. Jannie F. Franklin, maternal grandmother of the bride; Mrs. Zora Pugh, paternal grandmother of the bride; Mrs. Ruby W. Stanley, maternal grandmother of the bridegroom, and Mrs. Beulah Shupe, paternal step-grandmother of the bridegroom.

Mrs. Linda Shupe, mother of the bridegroom, wore a gown of pale dusty rose knit with a white chiffon pearl buttoned jacket trimmed in lace. She wore a corsage of contrasting carnations.

Mrs. Margie Reiber of Appomattox was mistress of ceremonies. Attending the guest register was Roni Lynn Johnson of Appomattox, cousin of the bridegroom. Programs were distributed by Miss Mary Jane Harding of Concord.

A program of nuptial music was provided by Miss Shana Harvey, Mrs. Shawn H. Moore and Mr. Jody Williams. Selections included "You and I", "One Hand, One Heart", "You Mean More To Me", "My Love", "Always And Forever", and "Make Us One Father God".

Following the ceremony was a reception in the fellowship hall. Mrs. Pamela Merricks of Altavista was in charge of the reception. She was assisted by Mrs. Jane Merricks of Altavista, Mrs. Betty Merricks of Altavista, Mrs. Nora Pugh Webber of Appomattox, and Mrs. Carolyn H. Tlise of Lynchburg.

The bride is a 1982 graduate of Appomattox County High School. She is employed by Burger King of Appomattox.

The bridegroom is a 1982 graduate of Appomattox County High School. He is employed by W.A. Stratton Construction Company of Appomattox.

After a honeymoon in Virginia Beach, the couple will reside in Appomattox.

MARIA BEASLEY OF APPOMATTOX was a three-time winner at the American Star Pageant April 23 at the Lynchburg Holiday Inn. She was crowned 1983 Star Princess, received a third-place trophy for her talent presentation, and was crowned Shannon Epperson Star Baby for 1983. This is her fourth pageant, and she is planning on participating in a fifth pageant on May 21. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benny Beasley, Sr., Maria attends Appomattox Children's Day Care Center.

Ayers honored

Mrs. Peggy W. Clark and daughters, Cindy Clark and Mrs. Jeanette C. Moore were hostesses at the Clark home on 206 Martha Street in Appomattox, Saturday April 30 for a floating lingerie shower in honor of Mrs. Lisa Clark Ayers.

Those in attendance included Mrs. Ruby W. Stanley, grandmother of the bride of Appomattox, as well as many family and friends. Lisa received many nice and useful gifts.

UDC to meet

The United Daughters of the Confederacy will meet on Thursday, May 19 at 12 noon at Maude's Restaurant.

Miss Gowin, Mr. LaReau are wed

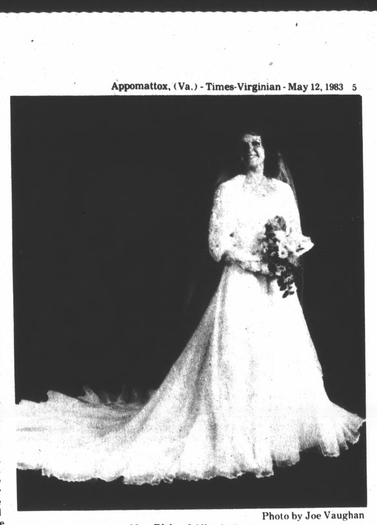


Photo by Joe Vaughan

Mrs. Richard Allen LaReau

The marriage of Joy Elizabeth Gowin to Richard Allen LaReau, both of Richmond, took place on Saturday, April 30 at four o'clock in the afternoon in West Lynchburg Baptist Church with the Rev. E. Thomas Murphey, Jr., pastor of Fort Hill United Methodist Church officiating before an altar accented with candles, magnolia, palms and flanked on either side by baskets of fresh flowers. Candles formed an arch in the front of the church and hurricane lamps and magnolia leaves marked the ends of each pew.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Gowin of Lynchburg and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald H. LaReau, also of Lynchburg.

The bride, given in marriage by Edwin Dale Bryant of Virginia Beach, wore a formal gown fashioned with portrait neckline accented with lace. The long sheer sleeves were accented with the same lace, and the front of the fitted bodice with appliqued with lace. The full skirt, bordered with a wide ruffle ended in a cathedral train. Her full length veil of illusion fell from a cap of lace. She carried a bouquet of orchids, carnations, and baby's breath.

Mrs. Catherine G. Parker of Kingsport, Tennessee, sister of the bride, was matron of honor. She wore a floor length gown of suede rose chiffon and carried a bouquet of carnations, rose buds and baby's breath.

Margarette Kay Berry of Vail, Colo., was maid of honor. She wore a gown identical to the matron of honor. Attendants were Mrs. Pamela G. Milby of Sandston, sister of the bride; Dawn LaReau of Blacksburg, Margie LaReau of Pittsburg, sisters of the bridegroom; Mrs. Benita G. Ripley of Sandston and nieces and nephew of the bride were flower girl and ring bearer.

The bride is a graduate of E.C. Glass High School and Radford University. She is employed by Calabash Seafood House in Mechanicsville.

The bridegroom is a graduate of E.C. Glass High School and Lynchburg College. He is an employee of Old Dominion Box Co.

After a wedding trip to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, the couple will reside in Richmond.

Baldwin, Ferguson wed

Photo by Allen Austin

Mrs. Milton Ferguson

The marriage of Debbie Darlene Baldwin to Burley Milton Ferguson both of Pamplin took place on Saturday afternoon, May 7, at 2 p.m. in Elon Baptist Church, Pamplin, with the Rev. Danny Owens, pastor of the church, officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest C. Baldwin of Pamplin.

The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Joyce H. Ferguson of Evergreen and Mr. Billy Ferguson of Appomattox.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Mrs. Teenie Hamlet, sister of the bride of Pamplin, was matron of honor.

Mr. Allen Harris of Evergreen was best man. Ushers were Mr. Richard Baldwin, brother of the bride of Pamplin and Dennis Chenault of Evergreen.

Mrs. Margaret Garrison was mistress of ceremonies.

Following the ceremony, the parents of the bride entertained with a reception. Those serving during the reception were Mrs. Katherine Elder, Mrs. Patti Daniels, Mrs. Kathy Guthrie of Brookneal, Mrs. Marilyn Harris and Mrs. Peggy Lewis of Evergreen; Mrs. Nancy Baldwin and Mrs. Wanda Vandergrift of Pamplin.

The bride is a graduate of Appomattox County High School and is attending Central Virginia Community College. She is employed by Burruss Timber Products.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Appomattox County High School and is employed by Blue Ridge Tobacco Co.

The couple will live in Pamplin.

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